

To: Kevin O'Connor [koconnor@mlml.calstate.edu]
Cc: Cara Clark [cclark@mlml.calstate.edu]; lifford Harvey [CHarvey@waterboards.ca.gov]; hris Solek [chriss@sccwrp.org]; arol Witham [cwitham@ncal.net]; ric Stein [erics@sccwrp.org]; osh Collins [josh@sfei.org]; oss Clark [rclark@mlml.calstate.edu]; had Roberts [rcr@robertsecp.com]
Bcc: []
From: CN=Paul Jones/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US
Sent: Tue 9/21/2010 9:52:52 PM
Subject: Re: Opportunities for Developing Relationships with DWR
josh@sfei.org
erics@sccwrp.org
www.sccwrp.org
<http://www.sccwrp.org/AboutSCCWRP/SCCWRPStaff/SteinEric.aspx>
josh@sfei.org

I agree with Kevin. Thanks, Chad, for putting good thought into this. I just spoke with one of our Associate Division Directors about this issue. Karen Schwinn suggested I attempt to write up what we're recommending to DWR. I will take Chad's initial effort and work on it for wider consideration. We have several other people here working on this from various angles also....and I need to coordinate with them.

Cheers,
Paul

Paul Jones
US Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street (WTR-8)
San Francisco, CA 94105
Phone: 415-972-3470
Fax: 415-947-3537
jones.paul@epa.gov
~~~~~

**From:** Kevin O'Connor <koconnor@mlml.calstate.edu>  
**To:** Chad Roberts <rcr@robertsecp.com>  
**Cc:** Eric Stein <erics@sccwrp.org>, Clifford Harvey <CHarvey@waterboards.ca.gov>, Paul Jones/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Carol Witham <cwitham@ncal.net>, Chris Solek <chriss@sccwrp.org>, Josh Collins <josh@sfei.org>, Ross Clark <rclark@mlml.calstate.edu>, Cara Clark <cclark@mlml.calstate.edu>  
**Date:** 09/21/2010 01:14 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Opportunities for Developing Relationships with DWR

L2 Committee,

I think Chad has provided a great outline here of how to move forward and I agree we should not let this opportunity pass.

I'm not sure about the timeline on this, however, since I will be out of the country for the next 2.5 months, Cara and Ross will be the contacts for the DWR training and the research portion of the project.

Perhaps, depending on the timeline, a doodle should be sent out to set up a conference call to keep this moving forward.

Also, Chad, you should definitely play a part in the process.

-Kevin

On Sep 20, 2010, at 10:21 AM, Chad Roberts wrote:

Eric et al,

The way I see this is that there are two broad tasks, though interrelated:

1. Work with DWR's BDCP group to train DWR staff in implementing CRAM (and the L1-based mapping and classification procedures), this implementing the WRAMP. This is fundamentally a training and liaison task, the kind of work that SCCWRP, the Central Coast Wetlands Group, and SFEI (and Carol) have all been engaged in.
2. ASSIST(!) DWR in developing information for the BDCP process as Paul described at the L2 meeting last week. This is something a bit different but, if I understand the needs correctly, not too different from the kinds of things that the PI Team has already done.

Task 1: Liaison with DWR needs a capability for agency engagement as well as technical training skills. I don't think one person can do everything.

In terms of training, I think that the entire training group that we have now should be engaged (one reason is that I would expect that everyone has something to bring to the table, but also because I'd prefer that nobody feel left out). So I'd appoint a committee of Sarah Pearce, Chris Solek, and Cara Clark to develop and implement the training for/with DWR.

In my judgement oversight for the training should be provided directly by the L2 Committee, which would have the real and positive effect of fixing the identity of the Committee in the minds of DWR and other agencies. Technical "advice" and management regarding the training would still be provided by the "PI Team," as it has up to now.

Details about DWR contracting would have to be dealt with, but this is not any different from any of the EPA grants; we're talking about a training project, with some extra sensitivity to implementing CRAM in an agency framework. For the designated "PI," I suggest a team of SCCWRP (Eric Stein), CCWG (Kevin O'Connor), and SFEI (Josh Collins). Or we can just have Meredith Williams be the PI. Personally, I would be pleased to participate if I had a place to land. I also think that Carol Witham should be included in the PI Team.

Task 2: This is a different set of tasks, and I recommend treating this as an "R&D project." The technical tasks are not clearly established but involve something like:

A. Obtain existing maps and data for the three (or four) alternative alignments. Working with DWR and DFG staff, parse out the wetland categories in the maps (nominally based on VegCAMP data) and cross-walk them into a classification consistent with CRAM so that appropriate modules can be assigned.

B. Working with DWR and DFG staff, identify wetlands in the vicinity of the Delta that have the same VegCAMP classifications as those in the alignments. Field-verify the applicability of the CRAM modules, and modify the modules if appropriate.

D. When an alignment has been selected and access to the alignment is available, develop a CRAM sampling plan for the alignment and repeat item C for the alignment, modifying interpretations as necessary.

This approach will come with many opportunities to interact with DWR staff, permitting a demonstration of L2/CRAM and the L1 classification and mapping process, in the meantime also allowing the L1 and L2 committees to develop and apply procedures to implement WRAMP.

Best I can do Eric. I see how this could work, but I don't speak for anyone else.

-----Original Message-----

Chad

[illegible] $\langle \rangle$ [illegible] $\langle \rangle$ 

-----Original Message-----

3

To: 'Clifford Harvey'; 'Paul Jones'; 'Ross Clark'; 'Kevin O'Connor'; 'Carol Witham'; 'Chris Solek'; josh@sfei.org  
Cc: 'Eric Stein'  
Subject: RE: Opportunities for Developing Relationships with DWR

All,

As a follow-up to the discussion at our Friday meeting (and the Thursday CWMW meeting):

1. I would urge that we (and particularly Paul, since the initial contact went to him) move with all deliberate haste to set up an arrangement to assist DWR with the BDCP tasks that we discussed Friday. We have identified numerous caveats and sidebars to protect our independence and credibility. Personally I don't see any conceptual or organizational problems with identifying prospective condition scores in alignments that cannot be visited in person, so long as we are able to visit wetland areas that are demonstrably similar to those areas for on-the-ground CRAM work (have done this a number of times in environmental studies - the standard of review is "substantial evidence," which is what we will provide). In addition we have identified the definite caveat that we must be contracted to visit the actual selected alignment when opportunity arises, at which time we may change the identified condition scores.

This opportunity has enormous potential benefits for our efforts at introducing CRAM into the Central Valley, as well as in developing a working trust with a major part of DWR, and I urge that we cannot afford to pass up the opportunity.

2. I would urge that the L2 Committee, or Josh or Paul or Chris or Kevin, or all of us, contact Gail Kuenster and set up a training program for DWR's BDCP staff as soon as it can happen. She asked for this training for her agency staff at the meeting on Thursday, and it's an irreplaceable opportunity to build a relationship with DWR staff.

Regards to all,

Chad